Message Text

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O 021814Z JUL 77 ZFF-2 FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE NIACT IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4333

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PDIP, YO

SUBJECT: REPORTED "MOLESTATION" OF WIDE OF YUGOSLAV PERMREP

REF: BELGRADE 4486

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL, MISOFF IMMEDIATELY CHECKED WITH YUGOSLAV MISOFF, SINCE USUN HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF ANY RECENT INCIDENTS INVOLVING MME. PETRIC. THIS LACK OF INFORMATION WAS PUZZLING, SINCE WE HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH YUGOSLAV MISSION, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH DEPUTY MINISTER MOJSOV JUNE 30 (USUN 2118) AND HEIGHTENED ATTENTION TO YUGOSLAV MISSION REQUIREMENTS THROUGH LATE JUNE 1 BY MISSION SECURITY PERSONNEL DURING THE COURSE OF THE MOJSOV VISIT. MOJSOV THE PETRICES AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE YUGOSLAV MISSION REPORTEDLY ARE OUT OF NEW YORK

OVER THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND, BUT WE SUCCEEDED IN LOCATING ONE OFFICER WHO RAN DOWN THE FOLLOWING FACTS.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO RECENT INCIDENTS

IN WHICH MME. PETRIC HAS BEEN ACCOSTED ON THE SIDEWALK BY A YOUNG SERBO-CROATIAN SPEAKING MALE ABOUT 24-25 YEAR OF AGE. ON JUNE 24 THIS MAN FOLLOWED MME. PETRIC OUT OF MOVIE SHE AND HER SON HAD BEEN ATTENDING. ONE JUNE 30 THE SAME MAN FOLLOWED CONFIDENTIAL

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HER AS SHE WALKED UPTOWN ON MADISON AVENUE BETWEEN 55TH AND 62ND STREETS, EN ROUTE TO HER RESIDENCE. AS SOON AS SHE HAD RETURNED HOME, MME. PETRIC CALLED THE YUGOSLAV MISSION TO REPORT THAT THE MAN HAD SPOKEN TO HER AND FOLLOWED HER. THE MISOFF IN TURN ALERTED THE POLICE OFFICER STATIONED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE YUGOSLAV RESIDENCE. HE CALLED THE 19TH PRECINCT STATION, WHICH IMMEDIATE DISPATCHED SGT. ROGERS AND DETECTIVE SOLOWSKI

OF THE 10TH PRECINCT INVESTIGATOR UNIT TO CALL ON HER AND GET THE FACTS. ON JUNE 1 INVESTIGATOR MCCARTY CALLED THE MISSION TO ASK PERMISSION TO BRING AROUND SOME PICTURES FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE MAN ON JULY 4 OR 5.

3. YUGOSLAV MISOFF SAID THE NYPD HAD BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE AND RESPONSIVE TO THEIR REPORT. HE SAID THEY HAD NOT WISHED TO BOTHER USUN AND HAD NOT REPORTED THE INCIDENTS OTHER THAN TO THE POLICE. USUN OFFICER URGED YUGOSLAV MISSION TO REPORT SUCH INCIDENTS ALSO TO USUN TO ENABLE US TO MONITOR AND ENSURE PROPERLY RESPONSIVE HANDLING OF SUCH CASES. USUN OFFICER ALSO EXPRESSED DEEP REGRET OVER THE INCIDENTS AND SYMPATHY FOR THE EMBARRASSMENT AND CONCERN CAUSED MME. PETRIC.

4. USUN WILL ALSO, OF COURSE, FOLLOW UP WITH THE YUGOSLAVS NEXT WEEK, AND WILL REPEAT OUR EXPRESSION OF REGRET TO AMBASSADOR PETRIC WHEN HE RETURNS TO NEW YORK. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER AN APPROPRIATE MESSAGE TO GOY.

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